

Amendments to the Claims and Listing of the Claims:

Please amend claims 3-7, without prejudice, by deleting the stricken through language, as indicated in the following listing of the claims, which replaces all prior listings of the claims:

1. (Original) A polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence of a promoter region of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein.

2. (Original) The polynucleotide according to claim 1, wherein the nucleotide sequence of a promoter region is any of the following nucleotide sequences (1) to (4):

(1) the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1,

(2) the nucleotide sequence of the nucleotide numbers 603 to 3871 in the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1,

(3) a nucleotide sequence of (1) or (2) with deletion, substitution or addition of one or more nucleotides, said nucleotide sequence having an ability of controlling the transcription of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, and

(4) a nucleotide sequence having an ability of controlling the transcription of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, and being complementary to a nucleotide sequence of a polynucleotide, wherein said polynucleotide hybridizes under a stringent condition to a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of (1) or (2).

3. (Currently Amended) A plasmid comprising the polynucleotide of claim 1 ~~or 2~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A plasmid comprising the polynucleotide of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein at the downstream (3' side) of said polynucleotide, said plasmid contains a polynucleotide of which transcription is controlled by said polynucleotide.

5. (Currently Amended) A plasmid comprising the polynucleotide of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein at the downstream (3' side) of said polynucleotide, said plasmid contains a reporter gene of which transcription is controlled by said polynucleotide.

6. (Currently Amended) A transformed cell in which the polynucleotide of claim 1 ~~or 2~~ is introduced.

7. (Currently Amended) A transformed cell in which the plasmid of claim 3-~~or~~ 4 is introduced.

8. (Original) A transformed cell in which the plasmid of claim 5 is introduced.

9. (Original) A method for searching a signal transduction controlling substance through a promoter of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, comprising

(1) a first step of contacting the transformed cell of claim 8 with a test substance,

(2) a second step of monitoring the expression amount of a reporter gene or an index value correlated therewith, after the first step,

(3) a third step of evaluating an ability of the above-mentioned substance to control signal transduction through a promoter of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, based on a change in the expression amount or index value correlated therewith monitored in the second step, and

(4) a fourth step of selecting a substance having an ability to control signal transduction through a promoter of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, based on the signal transduction controlling ability evaluated in the third step.

10. (Original) A method for evaluating an ability of a substance to control signal transduction through a promoter of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, comprising

(1) a first step of contacting the transformed cell of claim 8 with a test substance,

(2) a second step of monitoring the expression amount of a reporter gene or an index value correlated therewith, after the first step, and

(3) a third step of evaluating an ability of the above-mentioned substance to control signal transduction through a promoter of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, based on a change in the expression amount or index value correlated therewith monitored in the second step.

11. (Original) A method for searching a substance which binds to the polynucleotide of claim 1, comprising

(1) a first step of contacting the polynucleotide of claim 1 with a test substance,
(2) a second step of checking the presence or absence of formation of a complex of the polynucleotide with the test substance, after the first step, and
(3) a third step of selecting a substance which binds to the polynucleotide, based on the analysis result, obtained in the second step, of the presence or absence of formation of a complex.

12. (Original) A method for purifying a substance which binds to the polynucleotide of claim 1, comprising

(1) a first step of contacting the polynucleotide of claim 1 with a sample to form a complex of the polynucleotide with a substance, wherein said substance is contained in the sample and binds to the polynucleotide, and
(2) a second step of isolating the substance which binds to the polynucleotide, from a formed complex, after the first step.

13. (Original) A kit for screening a signal transduction controlling substance through a promoter of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, comprising the transformed cell of claim 8 and a reagent for measuring the expression amount of a reporter gene or an index value correlated therewith.

14. (Currently Amended) A medicine for neurological disorder and/or psychiatric diseases comprising as an active ingredient a compound having an ability to control signal transduction through a promoter of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, obtained by the searching method of claim 9 ~~or 11~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the active ingredient is formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15. (New) A medicine for neurological disorder and/or psychiatric diseases comprising as an active ingredient a compound having an ability to control signal transduction through a promoter of a gene encoding α subunit Gm1 of trimeric G-protein, obtained by the searching method of claim 11, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the active ingredient is formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.